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**Environment Department lifts “BOIL WATER ORDER” for  
Mountain View Elementary School in Moriarty**

(Santa Fe, NM) –The New Mexico Environment Department’s (NMED) Drinking Water Bureau has advised the Mountain View Elementary School in Moriarty to lift a “boil water order” for its facility.

The Mountain View Elementary School, located in Moriarty in Torrance County, approximately seven miles from Moriarty, was put on a “boil water advisory” on February 10, 2004 due to bacteriological contamination that exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for Fecal Coliform.

Actions to disinfect the water system and identify possible sources of contamination were promptly taken. These actions included shock chlorination on the entire water system. In addition, bottled water was provided for drinking and access was limited to all water fountains to assure that the children did not drink the water.

Water samples collected on two consecutive days since the shock chlorination have shown no Total Coliforms in the water system. These clean results have allowed NMED’s Drinking Water Bureau to advise the Mountain View Elementary School to lift a “boil water order” for its facility.

The presence of fecal coliform in water indicates that the water may have been in contact with sewage or animal wastes, and could contain disease-causing organisms. Most strains of fecal coliform are harmless and live in the intestines of healthy humans and animals. However, a positive test for fecal coliform in the drinking water supply may indicate the presence of dangerous strains of fecal coliform or other disease-causing organisms, which are sometimes found in sewage or animal wastes. These types of organisms may cause severe gastrointestinal illness and, in rare cases, even death. Children, the elderly, and immuno-compromised individuals are at an increased risk for illness.

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